

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 IO-14 NSF-04 AEC-11 SS-20 NSC-10

SCI-06 SCEM-02 INT-08 HEW-08 HUD-02 DODE-00 CEQ-02

EB-11 COME-00 EPA-04 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DOTE-00 DRC-01 /200 W  
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R 082318Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9482

UNCLAS MEXICO 0145

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, TECHN NATO, MX. US

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON GEOTHERMUC ENERGY:  
US/MEXICO;- AND POSSIBLE JOINT US/MEXICO PROJECT WITH OTHER  
LA COUNTRIES

REF: MEXICO 0144

1. IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH GUIZA OF CFE (FEDERAL POWER  
COVLISSION) WHO IN CHARGE THEIR GEOTHERMAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM,  
SCICOUNS EXPLORED INFORMALLY TWO CONCEPTS:

A) EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING LIMITED AGENCY-TO-AGENCY  
AGREEMENT ON GEOTHERMAL ENERGY (BETWEEN BUREC AND CFE) IN LIGHT  
OF INTEREST EXPRESSED BY AEC/U.CAL LAWRENCE LIVERMORE LABORATORY  
REPS (PARTICULARLY PROFESSOR KAHN) ON OCCASION OCTOBER 4 VISIT  
TO CERRO PRIETO FIELDS AND ELECTRICITY GENERATING PLANT.  
AEC'S REPRESENTATIVES OF LOS ALAMOS LAB (PARTICULARLY R.L.  
AAMODT AND M. C. SMITH), IN SUBSEQUENT VISIT ALSO APPARENTLY  
QUITE IMPRESSED BY GOM ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EXPERTISE. GIZA  
INTERESTED IN PROPOSAL, AND SAID HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO COOPERATE.

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B) POSSIBILITY THAT, IF EXPANDED US/MEXICO COOPERATION DEVELOPED,

BOTH JOIN FORCES IN DEVELOPING PROGRAM TO PROVIDE EXPERTISE TO OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES INTERESTED IN UTILIZATION OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY. SUCH A PROGRAM COULD DOVETAIL WITH US PROPOSAL MADE TO CCMS, CONCERNING SMALL PLANTS.

GUIZA EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL OPINION THAT GOM WOULD RESPOND FAVORABLY TO SUCH OVERTURES BY US.

2. THESE INITIATIVES WERE ALSO EXPLORED INFORMALLY WITH FONSEC REP LIC. SANTIAGO MEYER PICON, DG OF INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION, WHO REACTED FAVORABLY. THEY ARE IN KEEPING WITH INTEREST IN DEVELOPING MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL WORKING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN USAEC AND CFE. EMBASSY HAS PRESSED FOR SUCH COOPERATIVE EFFORTS FOR SOME TIME AND WISHES TO FURTHER THIS EFFORT IN ALL WAYS POSSIBLE. THEY ARE ALSO IN KEEPING WITH PRESIDENT NIXON'S CHARGE TO THE DEPARTMENT TO SEEK INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND WITH US ENERGY CHIEF SIMON'S RECENT REFERENCE TO US ACHIEVING ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY BY DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATE ENERGY SOURCES, PRINCIPALLY SOLAR AND GEOTHERMAL.

3. IN RELATION TO SUGGESTED JOINT PROGRAM AIMED AT LATIN AMERICAN RESOURCES, EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT CHILE AND GUATEMALA NOW RECEIVING UNDP SUPPORT FOR GEOTHERMAL EXPLORATION, WHICH PROGRAM MAY NOW BE TERMINATING BECAUSE OF LACK OF FUNDING. OTHER COUNTRIES IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA (NOTABLY NICARAGUA, COSTA RICA AND PERU) ALSO APPEAR TO HAVE GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES WHICH MIGHT BE ECONOMICALLY EXPLOITABLE. GOM ALREADY HAS HAD CONTACTS WITH GUATEMALA AND OTHER CA COUNTRIES AT REQUEST OF LATTER.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE FURTHER GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER AND HOW IT SHOULD FOLLOW UP ON THE INFORMAL INITIATIVES HEREIN REPORTED.

5. FINALLY, IN REVIEWING THE SECRETARY'S DECEMBER 12 APPEAL\* TO WESTERN EUROPE TO COOPERATE WITH NORTH AMERICA IN JOINT ENERGY MATTERS, THE EMBASSY NOTES THAT CANADA AND THE US WERE IDENTIFIED BY NAME BUT NO MENTION WAS MADE OF MEXICO. IN LIGHT GOM EXPERIENCE IN HYDROELECTRIC AND GEOTHERMAL POWER GENERATION

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AS WELL AS PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, IT APPEARS DESIRABLE MEXICO BE INCLUDED IN IMPLEMENTATION THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL.  
MCBRIDE

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** SENV, TECH, MX, US, NATO  
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